Forest Service Salmon-Challis National Forest North Fork Ranger District PO Box 180, 11 Casey Road North Fork, ID 83466 208 865-2700

File Code: 1950

Date: December 10, 2004

Greetings,

Thank you for your interest in the Salmon-Challis National Forest's Indian Creek Road Reconstruction Project. I am writing to advise you that I have selected Alternative B as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA). My decision will repair the Indian Creek road washout by constructing a new road prism, approximately 1160 feet in length and 14 feet in width, east of the washed out section of the Indian Creek road. The decision includes design criteria, best management practices, mitigation and monitoring requirements.

I have enclosed a copy of the EA and Decision Notice & Finding of No Significant Impact along with the maps and engineering road design of the Selected Alternative and Response to Public Comments (Appendix A to the EA).

Prior to making this decision I carefully considered consistency with the Forest Plan, relationship to environmental issues and public comments, and compatibility with other agency goals, especially Lemhi County. I believe my decision will help to restore motorized access on the Indian Creek road to both public and private land within the drainage. I believe my decision will also:

- 1. Meet the direction of the Idaho Supreme Court Ruling.
- 2. Provide public land access for recreation, hunting, fishing, and firewood gathering.
- 3. Provide a longer access season to 500 acres of private land along the Indian Creek Road allowing for the delivery of needed supplies to private landowners and restoring private landowner's emergency medical and law enforcement services
- 4. Provide Forest Service motorized road access for administrative and emergency purposes, including wildfire suppression, to National Forest System Lands in upper Indian Creek.

This letter also serves to inform you of the appeal period for this decision. The decision is subject to administrative review (appeal) in accordance with 36 CFR 215. Individuals or non-Federal organizations that submitted substantive comments during the comment period specified at 215.6 may appeal this decision. The notice of appeal must meet the appeal content requirements at 36 CFR 215.14. A notice of appeal must be in writing and clearly state that it is a Notice of Appeal being filed in pursuant to 36 CFR 215.





The appeal must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand delivery, or express delivery) in writing to:

Appeal Deciding Officer William A. Wood, Forest Supervisor Salmon-Challis National Forest 50 Hwy. 93 South Salmon, ID 83467 fax (208) 756-5555

or e-mailed to: appeals-intermtn-regional-office@fs.fed.us.

The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered appeals are 7:45am through 4:30pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic appeals must be submitted in a format such as an email message plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc). In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an electronic message, a verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature is one way to provide verification. The Notice of Appeal, including attachments, must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer at the correct location within 45 calendar days of the publication of the legal notice in the *Recorder Herald* newspaper, the newspaper of record. Attachments received after the 45-day appeal period will not be considered. The publication date in the *Recorder Herald*, newspaper of record, is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

If no appeal is filed within the 45 day time period, implementation of this decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. If an appeal is received, implementation may not occur for 15 days following the date of the last appeal disposition.

Detailed records of the environmental analysis are available on request. For more information contact Terry Hershey, Acting District Ranger, at (208) 865-2700, or Dan Garcia, IDT Leader at (208) 865-2722.

Thanks again for your interest in your National Forest.

Sincerely,

/s/ Terry Hershey

TERRY HERSHEY District Ranger

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